Induction of Akash and Trisul

1253. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that induction of surface to air missiles 'Akash' and 'Trisul' has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) its impact on technological obsolescence in the combat capabilities of Indian Air Force;

(d) whether the DRDO are facing problem in completion of the prcject; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reason for delay is the time taken for realization of state-of-the-art technology for guidance and propulsion.

(c) As these missiles arc based on state-of-the-art technologies, these will enhance the combat capabilities of Indian Air Force.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Docs not arise.

Chief of Defence Staff

1254. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government arc intending to create a post of Chief of Defence Staff in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof togetherwith the duty, authority and responsibility of the Chief of Defence Staff; and

(c) the procedure for selection of the post, duration of the services and salary and allowances payable to him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Government had constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on 17th April, 2000 to thoroughly review the national security system in its entirety and in particular, to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee, and to formulate specific proposals for implementation. The GoM consisted of the Home Minister, the Raksha Mantri, the External Affairs Minister and the Finance Minister. The GoM had after careful consideration of various issues formulated a comprehensive Report titled 'Reforming the National Security System', in which *inter alia* establishment of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) was also recommended. The recommendations made in the Report of the GoM were approved by the Government on May 11, 2001 with the modification that a view on the recommendation relating to the institution of the CDS will be taken after consultation with various political parties.

(b) and (c) Parts (b) and (c) of the question do not arise as details regarding duties, functions, responsibility, procedure of selection and other terms of engagement of the CDS and other related issues will be finalised only after a decision to establish the CDS has been taken by the Government after completion of the consultation process with various Political Parties.

Test of Agni-H Ballistic Missile

1255. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the tests of Agni-II Ballistic Missile have been completed;

(b) if so, by when the Missile is going to be inducted into the country's force;